

Series I
Correspondence,
1932-1973

Box 7, Folder 14

September 21, 1960-
December 19, 1960

1044

San Francisco
September 21, 1960

Dear Admiral,

Have finally arrived in San Francisco and will be here until November 7th. Then will be here again for the month of February. Went by the Bohemian Club and talked to Mr. Herzog. He said he would give me a guest card if you would drop him a note requesting one for me. If you have time, would appreciate having a guest card.

We are really working hard trying to get this guided missile cruiser to work. We don't have a gunnery department. It is the "Weapon Department" and believe me, they are worse prime donors than anvils ever dared be!

Have had several dates with Robin Quigley. In fact we went to the "Langiers" for dinner last night.

1045

Had lunch last Sunday with some friends of Lydia Fottis at the Burlington Country Club. Lydia has always been very nice to me.

I hear the summer has been lively. I miss Newport but feel that I'm doing what I should do as a career officer. We'll spend Christmas at Long Beach and go in July to be flagship for 7th Fleet.

How is the Reading Room? Please give them my very best regards. Is the War College "in" or "out" this year?

Very sincerely,

Muriel Brito

September 22, 1960.

Dear Admiral:

Last year when the Captain's selection list came out and my name was conspicuous by its absence, your letter was very greatly appreciated and I know that during this past year you have put in a good word for me here and there. Since the list came out this year I have been checking the mail as often as possible but as yet have seen nothing from RWB. I'm inclined to blame the mails. At any rate I want you to know that I appreciate your interest in me and your support. I also am very sorry that I haven't been a better correspondent but to tell the truth I found the life of Executive Officer a very busy one and I'm afraid all my correspondence suffered.

1047

I was very sorry to note that Howard's name was not on the selection list. I was rather surprised at this as some made it that I feel are less competent than he. With my experience I advise keeping plugging and hope.

I have orders to the staff of the Commander, Naval Base, Norfolk.

Operations and Plans. This is a 1100 billet and I'm not sure just how well the job is thought of but I'd be glad to give it a try.

Had a nice note from Jane Potter. She is at the Amphib Base at Norfolk. Also had a nice letter from Harry Gimber several weeks ago. He said that he had seen you in California.

I hope this finds you well and enjoying life as usual. If you are in the Norfolk area please give us a call.
Sincerely
Loy

1048

TACTICAL AIR CONTROL SQUADRON TWELVE
AMPHIBIOUS FORCE, U. S. PACIFIC FLEET
F. P. O. SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

13 October 1960

Dear Admiral Bates:

Just a few lines to bring you up to date on the Hine family.

At present I'm out here in WestPac off of Okinawa participating in a few ship's exercises. Our next stop is Yokosuka on the 17th of this month. In November we have a big exercise in this area in which the squadron will take part. It should prove to be interesting.

Just prior to coming out to WestPac in July we had an administrative inspection from our commander (COMTACGRU ONE) and much to my surprise Captain J. H. CRUSE - I believe he was Planning at the College - stopped and talked to me for awhile. I didn't recognize him at first until he mentioned the College and then I recognized him immediately. He had just taken over as Commander Tactical Air Control Group ONE a month or so ago.

I was most pleased yesterday when at long last my data card - under the present transferring system this is the card that is coded after you fill in your request for duty and forwarded to the Bureau - arrived. I was beginning to think that I would never make the Seavey list for transfer to shore duty. Since this is my last cruise - my 20 is in in 1964 - I am hoping that my duty will be on the east coast so that I can shop around for a house to settle down in. Should the opportunity present itself, I would greatly appreciate your recommendation of me, provided of course you feel I qualify, in the event that a yeoman first billet should be open in the Newport area. As a matter of information, my choices are as follows: 1st Newport, R.I., 2nd East Hartford, Conn, 3rd Washington D.C., and fourth Norfolk. My last semi-annual marks were 40, 40, 40, 38, and 40 and my present commanding officer felt that I was qualified as an instructor and put a recommendation in block 16 of the Seavey Data Card.

The Hine family is doing fine. I have my son and daughter in school and they seem to be coming along fine. My daughter Kathy is taking violin lessons and my wife claims that she is going to go right through the ceiling one of these days when Kathy hits her usual discords.

Well Admiral I guess that brings you up-to-date on the Hine family so I shall close for now. With best regards, I remain

Very Respectfully,

Hine
Hine

1049

NAVAL STRATEGY

The chief objective of naval strategy is the gaining of command of the sea, which is defined as "the keeping open of sea-air communications on the one hand and their suppression to the detriment of the enemy on the other." It is that portion of military strategy which is applied by the naval command and may be offensive or defensive in nature. Offensive naval strategy exerts a pressure on the enemy in order to gain further objectives; defensive naval strategy resists enemy pressure in order to prevent loss of naval objectives. Without support by adequate logistics, the objectives of naval strategy cannot be realized. This fact was recognized by the United States in World War II, and every effort was made to provide adequate logistics to the fighting forces. In the Pacific this effort was culminated by the revolutionary development of the fast mobile support groups which supplied the logistics of the fleet at sea in advanced areas.

Command of the sea is essential to successful naval operations, for without it a belligerent can neither move his own sea-air traffic freely nor prevent the enemy from doing so. To gain and maintain such command may require surface, subsurface, and air operations of a variety of types. "Command of the sea" does not mean command of the entire sea but only over those vital sea areas necessary to accomplish the objectives. "Command of the sea" is not intended to convey the meaning of permanent undisputed control, nor does "vital sea area" mean a sea expanse beyond that necessary. The terms are limited because it is not likely that either belligerent can possess sufficient strength everywhere to assure the successful movement of sea-air traffic in any portion of the sea, nor is it likely that a belligerent could devote his entire naval strength to obtaining complete command of the sea.

R. W. B.

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R. W. B.

P.F. Collier & Son Corporation

640 Fifth Avenue • New York 19, N. Y.

Editorial Offices

Oct. 21, 1960

Admiral R. W. Bates
12 Mt. Vernon Street
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Admiral Bates:

Thank you very much for your bibliographical recommendations for the article on Naval Strategy. I am sure that this will provide us with all the information that we need.

It was a great pleasure to talk with you the other day. I am sorry that I had to interrupt it for a luncheon engagement. I hope we shall have the opportunity of chatting again.

Sincerely yours,



David Crawford
Managing Editor
Collier's Encyclopedia

DC:bf

1052

October 25, 1960

Dear Admiral:

When I received your letter of September 29th I resolved to answer at once, but time has slipped by and now almost a month has passed. During this time however, we have moved from Florida to Virginia Beach and have gone through the "getting settled" period. It has been a busy time but an interesting one.

May I hasten to say that in my earlier letter I had no intention of "bawling out" - even in a nice way - my old boss and good friend, nor was I fishing for congratulations, it was only that at a time when things seemed to be going my ^{way} I missed hearing from you. You will never know how much I appreciated your kind letter a year earlier when things didn't seem so bright. I also appreciate all your efforts in my behalf, I know you helped a lot.

I received a letter from Howard a few days ago. I was surprise that he didn't make it as it seems to me other less qualified officers were selected. Also have had a recent letter from Harry Gimber who reports all well

1053

The family here are all well and enjoying life at Virginia Beach. Mother and Dad Belcher have just returned to Kansas after a summer at South Walpole. They are 78 and 77 now but both are in good health and they still enjoy the trip. I saw them earlier this fall. Barbara - our eldest daughter decided on Northwestern University and is now out there. I took her out soon after the ship returned from the Med. All in all the good Lord has been good to the Belchers.

I have just received my appointment effective 1 July 1960 so am now waving the eagles.

Lorene joins me in sending our best and also in extending an invitation to visit us anytime you have the opportunity. - We would be delighted.

Sincerely
Roy

P.F. Collier & Son Corporation

640 Fifth Avenue • New York 19, N. Y.

Editorial Offices

November 2, 1960

Richard W. Bates
Rear Admiral (Ret.)
12 Mt. Vernon Street
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Admiral Bates:

I must apologize for not having answered your very nice note sooner, but we are simply swamped with work here, and your letter got buried in a pile of manuscripts.

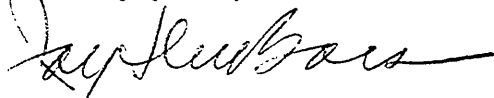
We were all very glad to meet you and to hear your views, which were most interesting. We were sorry not to have been able to spend more time with you, but it was not possible on such short notice.

We are considering your suggestion of Lt. Gen. Arthur Trudeau for the proposed article on Military Strategy and Tactics, and will hold his name in reserve if the author we had previously asked to take on the assignment should be unable to do so. We certainly appreciate your continued interest in Collier's Encyclopedia.

Thank you for sending along the Naval Strategy bibliography.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,



Jay Du Bois
Assistant Editor
Collier's Encyclopedia

DUB:cm

1055

GRAHAM-PAIGE CORPORATION
410 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK 22, N. Y.

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

2 November 1960

Rear Admiral R. W. Bates, USN (Ret)
12 Mt. Vernon Street
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Rafe:

To-day I received your letters dated 31 October and 1 November. I will now reply to your letter that has to do with the Navy League banquet.

I too thought it was one of the best ever - - best illustrated by the fact that we have had more complimentary letters regarding this dinner than ever before. The amazing thing was that even though our schedule was running a little late, due to a delayed starting time, no one left the room. I kept close tabs on the audience all through the speeches and was impressed by the interest interest in the speeches.

I want you to know that you were supposed to be on the Dais but Babe insisted that you sit at our table.

I appreciate very much your comments regarding the family, especially my son John. He is doing quite well in connection with his activities with Hotel Corporation and of course Patti has been very helpful, and both Babe and I are very proud of her.

Referring to your letter regarding Slim Ingersoll, I am very anxious that both you and he know that I am very fond of Slim and have full knowledge of his capabilities. I have always known him to be a splendid naval officer and certainly had occasion to observe his administrative ability while he was President of the War College. He is truly a grand person. Certainly I am very glad to know of his interest in baseball and I can assure you that if and when we acquire the Washington baseball franchise I will be happy to talk to him about how and where he might fit into the picture.

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Rear Admiral R. W. Bates, USN (Ret)
2 November 1960
Page Two

You are probably aware of the fact that we would be compelled, for good business reasons, to hire a General Manager who is an experienced baseball man and a Team Manager who, of course, would have to be someone who has been not only a player but also has had managerial experience.

At the moment it would seem that we have a good chance of acquiring the franchise. However, the competition is presently a serious contender. I will keep you advised.

With kind regards, I am,

Sincerely,

Jack
John J. Bergen

1057

RICHARD F. NEWCOMB
465 CONTANT AVENUE
HAWORTH, N. J.

Nov. 3, 1960

Rear Adm. Richard W. Bates, USN
12 Mt. Vernon St.,
Newport, R.I.

Dear Admiral Bates:

I am completing a book on the Battle of Savo Island, 9 Aug 42, and am looking for pictures to illustrate it. The book will be published next September by Holt, Rinehart & Winston.

I have looked in all the obvious places, such as the Navy Photo Center in Washington, the War History Office in Tokyo, etc., without too much luck. Rear Admiral Price, who had the WILSON at Savo, now suggests that you may have some photos, or know where they might be found. I have in mind, of course, principally action shots, such as rescue and salvage attempts on ASTORIA, after daylight 9 Aug., same for CANBERRA, or any Japanese shots such as the one Morison uses facing Pg. 43 of Vol. 5. Any suggestions you have on these pictures, or any others, will be most welcome.

I would like to tell you how extremely interesting and helpful I found your Naval War College Analysis of this battle. It's a tremendous job and most valuable. (I would also like to explain that I was apparently given it, for a hurried reading, by accident when I was in Washington. I have been over the matter with Admiral Eller and quite understand it was for background only, and not for publication.) My book has been reconstructed from the original reports, plus interviews with participants and many other sources. I hope to follow it with a book on the Battle of Guadalcanal, sort of to show the other side of the Savo coin.

Thank you for any clues you can give me in tracking down pictures.

Sincerely yours,

Richard F. Newcomb

1058

Dear Rafe: Failing to reach you by telephone due to your line being busy - I decided you must be talking to a gal friend. Speaking about them - you have many - Every lady at your party spoke most highly about you, and they are all genuinely fond of you - They have noted your thoughtfulness on frequent occasions - and remarked on what a very nice thing you did for the Customs and other Navy, and for them - in bringing us all together at the Buffet - The "gals" don't miss much -

Mardi - I thoroughly enjoyed our selves and our partners at table - You are a real asset to the Navy in this area, and we cannot think of anyone who could or would do what you do - and accomplish -

We thank you for including us -

Sincerely

The Taffinders

8 Nov 1960

1059



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

IN REPLY REFER TO

Op-09B9/gmj

23 November 1960

Rear Admiral R. W. Bates, USN (Ret.)
12 Mount Vernon Street
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Rafe:

Yesterday was Bates day in the office. Having been away on Monday I found three letters of the 17th and 21st to greet me. First let's take Newcomb. Mr. Newcomb, as you undoubtedly know, wrote the story of INDIANAPOLIS in a very fair and splendid way. He is an honest man, I believe, but nevertheless a newspaper sleuth. Through a mistake he saw your "Battle of Savo Island" but when I discovered it, the notes were not given him, he was advised that he could not use the material other than general background -- since he had already looked through it, there was nothing else we could say but this. Please send me a copy of his letter or the exact words of his statement.

Second, Bates vs Weeks. The copy of your letter to him reached me about the first of the month. One reason I have not written is that after I couldn't write immediately, I waited to see what he might reply. Another and the basic reason is that I have been away a great deal this month (I was sorry to have missed you on the flying trip to Newport which lasted from five o'clock in the evening until seven o'clock the next morning.) and because I have not been feeling too well. I am back in the torture instrument of a head harness. However your letters have stimulated me to write. Herewith is a copy.

Your contact with Mr. Barnett of Richardson Foundation sounds most promising. I will be very much interested in hearing of progress with them though obviously this will not be until into the New Year.

I don't see that you need any authority from Admiral Burke to go ahead with this project. I will support it here fully. The main thing you need is a place to work and funds to pay for the operation. You could work at any university

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satisfactorily including using classified material -- We have shipped Professor Field considerable quantities of classified material in his Korean War study. He has the usual clearances and safe arrangements. Of course, it might be more convenient to do this at the War College, and from the Navy's prestige standpoint, I believe it would be somewhat more desirable. However this is secondary. The main point is to have the money and the place. This might be the time for you to talk to Count Austin, explaining the possibility of funds support, and asking him for space.

It looks as if the old engine may be starting up again.

Best of luck.



E. M. ELLER

23 November 1960

Edward Weeks, Editor
The Atlantic Monthly
8 Arlington Street
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Weeks:

Admiral Bates tells me he has written you at some length about the project we discussed with you in New York -- the completion of his study "Battle for Leyte Gulf."

May I add the hope of this office that the study can be continued and completed. With the mounting ship and weapon costs and increasing demands, especially in Polaris and anti-submarine fields, the Navy has had to cut to the bone wherever possible. Some very worthwhile projects have had to be abandoned. One of these was the important study project headed by Admiral Bates.

Over the course of several years with a small staff he produced exhaustive, detailed studies seeking to get at the truth back of the decisions and actions in major battles of the War. As far as I know, nothing like this has been attempted elsewhere. Every decision and record and every statement of important participants has been carefully evaluated. This evaluation has included detailed plotting and charting which has helped to arrive at the truth. This is a unique historical undertaking which can have unique benefits for command decisions in the future, *as well as for historians*.

I hope you can find foundation funds to support the completion of the study of the Battle of Leyte Gulf, as you thought possible when we discussed this in New York. I have much of the file and detailed materials collected by Admiral Bates. These repose with many other materials in my vast Classified Archives. I will help to the fullest in obtaining records and information.

It was a pleasure seeing you again in New York. I wish you continued success in your splendid Editorship of a great magazine.

The enclosed brochures may be of interest.

Best wishes.

*Copy to:
Adm. Bates ✓*

E. M. ELLER

1062

RICHARD F. NEWCOMB
465 CONTANT AVENUE
HAWORTH, N. J.

Nov. 27, 1960

Dear Admiral Bates:

Thank you so much for your letter of Nov. 21. I will certainly follow through on the picture sources you suggested.

I must have expressed myself badly. I do not have a copy of the Analysis. I was merely allowed to skim through it at the Navy Records Center in Washington, and then my notes were screened, with a good deal eliminated. However, as I say, I greatly enjoyed it, even though I cannot make any direct use of it. You did a most thorough and interesting (and extremely worthwhile) work.

Again my thanks for your suggestions.

Sincerely yours,

Richard F. Newcomb

1063

RS Bolcher Jr
106 53rd ST
Virginia Beach Va
November 28, 1960

Dear Admiral:

I ran across the enclosed comment a few days ago and thought it might be of interest to you. It is apparent that Adm. Lockwood didn't make a hit with this reviewer.

Hope you have enjoyed a fine Thanksgiving holiday season with good New England Weather. Did you get to the Army-Navy game? I saw some on TV. and enjoyed what I saw very much.

Howard was in Norfolk last week and I had a chance to chat with him. He seems to be busy and is interested in his job in Key West. He doesn't give himself much hope for selection next year however.

Will you be going to California for Christmas this year? Be sure to let us know if you plan to be near Norfolk and

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hide awhile with Lorene and me.

We are all in good health and looking forward to the Christmas vacation time when Barbara will be home with us.

Lorene sends her best.

Sincerely
Roy.



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND & PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
PROVIDENCE

CHRISTOPHER DEL SESTO
GOVERNOR

December 1, 1960

Admiral Richard W. Bates
Newport
Rhode Island

Dear Admiral Bates:

Please pardon the delay in the acknowledgement of your well wishes, but, as you probably know, I have been touring South America with the other Governors of the United States, and have just returned to my office. It certainly was very gratifying to hear from so many of my friends, and I want to thank you ever so much for your kindness.

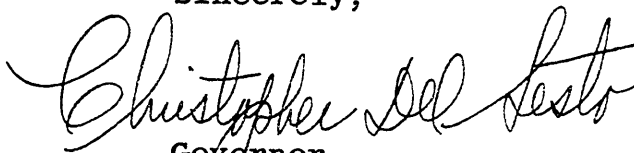
Naturally, I was disappointed with the outcome of the recent election. However, we who are experienced in politics are accustomed to these minor setbacks. We have learned to respect the mandate of the people, because we know that democracy is the finest form of government.

During my term as Governor of Rhode Island, I have always tried to do what was best for the majority of the people of our State. In this, I hope I have succeeded.

Again, many thanks for your thoughtfulness.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,


Governor

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INSTITUTE FOR AMERICAN STRATEGY



140 SOUTH DEARBORN ST.
CHICAGO 3, ILLINOIS

December 8, 1960

Rear Admiral R. W. Bates (Ret.)
12 Mount Vernon Street
Newport, Rhode Island

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Retired Chairman of the Board
Sears, Roebuck and Co.

Dear Admiral Bates:

Thank you for your nice letter of November 23rd.

It was a privilege to talk to you while we were driving to the Naval War College. I appreciate your courtesy in meeting me very much.

As I told you, I think that foundations who might be supporters of your vital historical project would want to know the views of the Secretary of the Navy and the CNO.

Then you would be in a position to approach foundations -- including those that were suggested to you by Dr. Wriston. Mr. Perkins of the Carnegie Corporation is particularly interested in these national defense matters.

If I can think of any further suggestions, I will certainly send them along.

Sincerely yours,

Frank Barnett

Frank R. Barnett
Program Director
(Director of Research
The Richardson Foundation
122 East 42 Street
New York 17, New York)

FRB:tl

1067

RICHARD F. NEWCOMB
465 CONTANT AVENUE
HAWORTH, N. J.

Dec. 8, 1960

Rear Adm. R. W. Bates, USN
12 Mt. Vernon St.,
Newport, R.I.

Dear Admiral Bates:

I saw your film on the Battle of Savo Island yesterday, and what a magnificent job it is! Lee Blair himself ran it off for me at Film Graphics (I had no idea it was that long) and we had a great time watching it and discussing it, your problems in making it, etc. It was extremely valuable to me, and I hope to get some good still shots from it, particularly from the Japanese footage.

I have long had in mind a series of films, say an hour or so in length, on the great battles of the war. I think they would have tremendous appeal, for years to come, and be of historic importance. (I don't feel Victory at Sea devoted enough time to each phase, nor did it have the necessary instructive or informational content). Something like you have turned out, shortened and edited for public consumption, would, I'm sure, have great value over the years in schools, groups, TV or whatever. I hope someday to have the time to put something together and try to get someone interested in it.

After seeing your film I was relieved to find that my Savo book seems to be on the right track. I would very much like to come up and talk to you sometime about your book and film, if agreeable to you. As I near completion on my book I would also be most appreciative if you would fill in chinks in my information if I could put them to you by letter from time to time. I do not wish to burden you, and if this is an imposition please tell me. Again let me thank you for your help.

Sincerely yours,

Richard F. Newcomb

1068



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

IN REPLY REFER TO

Op-09B9/gmj

19 December 1960

Rear Admiral R. W. Bates, USN (Ret.)
12 Mount Vernon Street
Newport, Rhode Island

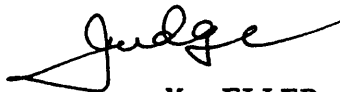
Dear Rafe:

Your two letters have just arrived. It seems strange to me that anyone would show a classified film to a researcher without authority from the originator. As for Mr. Newcomb, he is an expert newspaperman trained to dig out information and I am sure he was following newspaper practice and ethics. It is the film holder's fault, not his.

I have promptly written Mr. Barnett and hope for results which as you say will not come until after the first of the year. Herewith is his letter along with a copy of mine.

As far as I can see there is no need for you to trouble to come to Washington. The place to work now is where the foundations are.

Merry Christmas.


E. M. ELLER

1069

NO 26327
Mrs. Langford

Op-09B9/gmj

19 December 1960

Frank R. Barnett, Program Director
Director of Research
The Richardson Foundation
122 East 42nd Street
New York 17, New York

Dear Mr. Barnett:

Admiral Bates has told me of his discussion with you concerning getting foundation support for the completion of his study, "Battle for Leyte Gulf."

May I add the hope of this office that the study can be continued and completed. With the mounting ship and weapon costs and increasing demands, especially in Polaris and anti-submarine fields, the Navy has had to cut to the bone wherever possible. Some very worthwhile projects have had to be abandoned. One of these was the important study project headed by Admiral Bates.

Over the course of several years with a small staff he produced exhaustive, detailed studies seeking to get at the truth back of the decisions and actions in major battles of the War. As far as I know, nothing like this has been attempted elsewhere. Every decision and record and every statement of important participants has been carefully evaluated. This evaluation has included detailed plotting and charting which has helped to arrive at the truth. This is a unique historical undertaking which can have unique benefits for command decisions in the future, as well as for historians.

Admiral Bates tells me that you are optimistic about obtaining foundation funds to complete the study. I have much of the files and detailed material collected by Admiral Bates. These repose with many other materials in my large classified archives. I will help to the fullest in obtaining records and information. If you have any further suggestions on procedures to be followed in getting foundation support, both Admiral Bates and I would appreciate receiving them.

1070

The enclosed may be of interest.

Merry Christmas.

E. M. ELLER
Rear Admiral, USN (Ret.)
Director of Naval History

Copy to:
Admiral Bates (blind)

Three whites
submarine
constellation
foundation

2

1071